ABSTRACT

A surface light source device comprises a light guide plate 15 having a back face 15 E opposite with an emission face, the back face 15 being provided with a great number of micro-reflectors 19 and ridge-like projections 20. A U-shaped fluorescent lamp 14 is disposed along a plurality of end faces 15D, 15E and 15C. Light which is introduced into the light guide plate 15 through the end faces 15D and 15E is direction-converted by the micro-reflectors 19 to be directed to a generally frontal direction end emitted from the emission face. Each micro-reflector 19 realizes direction-conversion mainly through successive double inner-reflections at a pair of slopes. Light introduced into the light guide plate 15 through the end face 15C, which extends in a direction generally perpendicular to the end faces 15D and 15E, is direction-converted by the ridge-like projections 20 having a pair of slopes 20A, 20B to be directed to a generally frontal direction end emitted from the emission face. An LCD panel is supplied with the emission. Direction conversion sharing depending on directions of light introduction brings an effective illumination output toward a generally frontal direction.□